

Message Text

SECRET

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46 S

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 SS-14 NSC-10 RSR-01

RSC-01 /041 W

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O 231255 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1740

SECDEF

CINCPAC

JCS

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 BANGKOK 4707

DEPARTMENT PASS WHITE HOUSE FOR DR. KISSINGER

SECSTATE FOR UNDER SECRETARIES PORTER AND TARR AND ASSISTANT
SECRETARY GREEN

CINCPAC FOR ADMIRAL GAYLER

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS

SUBJECT: SPECIAL CI ASSISTANCE FOR THAILAND, FY-73

1. SUMMARY: NOW IS THE CRUCIAL TIME TO INFLUENCE THE DIRECTIONS AND PACE OF THAI COUNTERINSURGENCY PROGRAM. THE THAI ARE FORMULATING THEIR FIRST MEANINGFUL NATIONAL CI PLAN AND ARE DEVELOPING BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MEN AND MATERIAL NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE PROGRAM OUTLINED BANGKOK 2909. A CORE U. S. CONTRIBUTION OF ABOUT \$3 MILLION FROM VARIOUS AID SOURCES, OVER AND ABOVE WHAT IS ALREADY PROGRAMMED, HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED BY THE THAI AND OURSELVES AS ESSENTIAL TO PUT THIS PROGRAM INTO EFFECT. THIS RELATIVELY SMALL ADDITIONAL INVESTMENT BY THE USG NOW CAN PAY BIG DIVIDENDS IN RTG CI EFFECTIVENESS. WHETHER FY 73 YEAR- END FUNDS OR EARLY FY 74 FUNDS ARE EVENTUALLY DESIGNATED FOR THIS PURPOSE, THE IMPORTANT THING IS TO AUTHORIZE US TO START TALKING WITH THE THAI NOW ABOUT SUCH A PROGRAM IN PREPARATION FOR THE NEXT CAMPAIGN, AS THAI FY 74 BUDGET
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SUBMISSIONS WILL BE DROWN UP WITHIN THE NEXT WEEK OR SO AND WE NEED TO MOVE QUICKLY TO BE SURE THEY BUDGET THEIR PART. SUCH HELP, GIVEN PROMPTLY FOR THOSE ITEMS TO WHICH THE THAI THEMSELVES ATTACH HIGH PRIORITY, WOULD ALSO MAKE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO MEETING THE VERY REAL POLITICAL PROBLEMS WE NOW FACE (BANGKOK 18115).

2. DISCUSSIONS WITH THE THAI

THAT WE HAVE BEEN PURSUING FOR NEARLY A YEAR REGARDING THE COORDINATION AND FOCUS OF RTG CI PROGRAMS (BKK 5193), HAVE SHOWN PROGRESS IN RECENT MONTHS. THE CI STRATEGY FOR FY 73 AND 74, FOR WHICH IMPLEMENTING PLANS HAVE JUST BEEN APPROVED BY GEN. PRAPHAT, IS ADDRESSED TO THE MAJOR INSURGENT BASE AREAS. IT IS A GRADUAL APPROACH ADAPTED TO THE REALITIES OF THE THAI SCENE AND, WE BELIEVE, GIVES REASONABLE PROMISE OF LIMITING INSURGENT EXPANSION AND GAINING THE INITIATIVE IN SELECTED AREAS. FOR THE FIRST TIME BOTH CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AND FIELD OFFICIALS OF CIVIL, POLICE, AND MILITARY AGENCIES CONCERNED HAVE PARTICIPATED IN ADVANCED PLANNING (BKK 15066), AND THEIR BUDGET PROGRAMMING THIS YEAR IS TAKING THE NATIONAL CI PLAN INTO ACCOUNT. DEFECTS ARE EVIDENT, BUT THE MOVE IS DEFINITELY TOWARD ORGANIZING THAI RESOURCES AND ENERGIES TO DO THE JOB IN A WAY WE HAVE NOT SEEN BEFORE.

3. IN URGING AN INTEGRATED NATIONAL PROGRAM UPON THE RTG A YEAR AGO, I NOTED THAT THIS WOULD ENABLE US TO RENDER CI ASSISTANCE MORE EFFECTIVELY, AND I ALERTED WASHINGTON (BKK 14886, PARA 8) TO EXPECT A U. S. MISSION PROPOSAL FOR CLOSER INTEGRATION OF U. S. CIVIL / POLICE/ MILITARY AID IN THE CI FIELD WHEN AND AS CORRESPONDING THAI ACTIONS MIGHT OFFER REASONABLE PROSPECT FOR GREATER EFFECTIVENESS. I BELIEVE THE TIME HAS NOW COME TO MOVE AHEAD ON THIS CONCEPT.

4. WE HAVE RECEIVED THROUGH CSOC A STATEMENT OF REQUIREMENTS, APPROVED BY GENERAL PRAPHAT, WHICH HAS WITHIN IT ELEMENTS CRUCIAL TO THE SUCESS OF THE RTG' S NEW CI PROGRAM AND WORTHY OF SELECTIVE U. S. ASSISTANCE ON A COST- SHARED BASIS.

5. WE HAVE GONE OVER THIS LIST CAREFULLY, REJECTING MARGINAL OR EXTRAVAGANT ITEMS FROM THE CSOC LIST, OMITTING THOSE COVERED IN THE PRESENTLY PROGRAMED MAP/ SA
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LEVELS FOR FY-73 (BKK 2273) AND PROXIMATE YEARS, AND WE

HAVE INJECTED OUR OWN IDEAS TO POINT UP WHAT BOTH WE AND THE THAI REGARD AS THE CORE OF THE PROGRAM. THE RESULT IS THE FOLLOWING INTEGRATED PROGRAM FOR SPECIAL U. S. ASSISTANCE TO TOP PRIORITY PROJECTS IN THE CI FIELD TOTALLING ABOUT \$3 MILLION. THIS PROPOSAL IS OUTLINED BELOW:

RTG PROGRAM US INPUT ILLUSTRATIVE
(\$ COSTS-\$1,000)

A. MILITARY (MAP)

1) 3 HILLTRIBE VOLUNTEER ARMS
COMPANIES COMMO 100

2) 40 VOLUNTEER RANGER ARMS
TEAMS COMMO 150

3) IMPROVING RTA SMALL UNIT CI
OPERATIONS COMMO 900

B. POLICE (SA)

1) UPGRADING WEAPONRY AMMO 500

2) INCREASED PATROLLING IN CSOC TARGET
DISTRICTS COMMO 210
 JEEPS 500

3) SPECIAL BRANCH ASSIGNMENTS TO
CSOC PRIORITY DISTRICTS (SPECIAL SPECIALIZED
FUNDING) ELECTRONICS
 AND PHOTO 85

C. CIVIL (LIMITED TO 17 COSC
TARGET DISTRICTS)

1) MOBILITY FOR LOCAL
OFFICIALS (SA) JEEPS 85

2) VILLAGE SELF- DEFENSE (MAP) AMMO 80

3) CIVIC ACTION (SA) WATER TRAILERS
 MEDICAL KETS
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TOOLS 50

4). IMPROVING C/ P/ M
RADIO INTERFACE (SA) COMMO 250

D. IMPROVEMENTS IN AS CITED
DEFECTOR PROGRAM BKK 17269 50

2) FIELD EVALUATION
OF CI PROGRAMS BY
THAI RESEARCH HALF COST
TEAM. FIRST YEAR 60

3) JOINT SECURITY SPECIALIZED
CENTERS & PSYOPS EQUIPMENT 25

FURTHER EXPLANATION OF THESE PROPOSALS, DRAWING UPON PUR
CONTINUOUS AND EXTENSIVE INTER- AGENCY DISCUSSIONS WITH THE THAI,
IS AVAILABLE AND WILL BE FORWARDED FOLLOWING APPROVAL IN PRIN-
CIPLE. INDIVIDUAL ITEMS WOULD BE SUBJECT TO NEGOTIATION AND WOULD
BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE NORMAL AID PROCESS.

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RSC-01 /041 W
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S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 BANGKOK 4707

6. THIS \$3 MILLION SPECIAL CI PROGRAM WOULD BE MOST USEFUL
TO:

A) ACCELERATE THAI IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMS WHICH
ARE URGENTLY NEEDED TO ENABLE THE RTG TO DEAL MORE EFFECTIVELY
WITH CI PROBLEM;

B) DEMONSTRATE OUR RESPONSIVENESS WHEN THE THAI ORGANIZE

THEMSELVES TO
COPE WITH THE CI
PROBLEM, TO WHICH THE U. S. GOVERNMENT (STATE/ DEFENSE 032514)
GIVES TOP PRIORITY; AND

C) REFUTE VIEWS INCREASINGLY EVIDENT AMONG THAI
STUDENTS AND INTELLECTUALS THAT WE ARE ONLY AIDING THE
MILITARY TO MAINTAIN USE OF THE AIR BASES, BUT HAVE LITTLE
INTEREST IN HELPING THAILAND MEET ITS OWN VERY REAL PROBLEMS.

7. I BELIEVE THIS RELATIVELY SMALL AMOUNT OF ADDITIONAL
ASSISTANCE, PROVIDED IN TIMELY FASHION, WOULD GIVE A SUBSTANTIAL
IMPETUS TO THE THAI CI EFFORT. I URGE THEREFORE THAT I BE
AUTHORIZED TO INFORM THE RTG THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO DISCUSS
UP TO \$3 MILLION OF ADDITIONAL MAP/ SA ASSISTANCE FOR THEIR
FY 74 CI PROGRAM-- PROVIDED THAT THAI BUDGET THE RESOURCES
NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE CI PROGRAM OUTLINED IN BKK 3903.
AS RTG AGENCIES ARE DISCUSSING RTG BUDGET SUBMISSIONS DUE AT
THE END OF MARCH, I REQUEST AN URGENT REPLY IN ORDER THAT WE
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MAY USE THIS AID TO INDUCE THE MAXIMUM SELF- HELP AND
COORDINATION OF THE THAI SIDE.

8. THE MOST EFFECTIVE ASSISTANCE WOULD BE AN ADDITIONAL
MAP/ SA ALLOCATION FROM FY 73 FUNDS. IF SUCH FUNDS ARE
ABSOLUTELY UNAVAILABLE, I REQUEST AUTHORITY TO DISCUSS NOW
IN PRINCIPLE, FOR OBLIGATION SPECIAL CI ASSISTANCE
FO THE TYPE INDICATED ABOVE AS AN ADDITION TO FY 74 AID OTHERWISE
PROGRAMED.

9. THIS IS A JOINT U. S. MISSION MESSAGE.
UNGER

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